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### HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS REPORT

December Livestock Slaughter  
Cattle Inventory  
Average Prices Received by Farmers  
Milk Production

## Louisiana Livestock Slaughter

**Commercial red meat production** in Louisiana during December totaled 500,000 pounds, unchanged from November and the same as the previous year.

There were 500 head of **cattle** slaughtered during December, unchanged from the previous month but 100 head above the previous year. Average live weight was 722 pounds, down five pounds from the previous month but eight pounds above December 2009. Total live weight, at 334,000 pounds, was slightly up from the previous month and 27 percent above the previous year.

**Calves** slaughtered during December totaled 400 head, down 100 head from November but the same as the previous year. Live weight averaged 526 pounds, down 15 pounds from November but 24 pounds above a year ago. Total live weight, at 197,000 pounds, was down 21 percent from November and six percent below the previous year.

The number of **hogs** slaughtered during December totaled 1,400 head, up 200 head from the previous month but 100 head below December 2009. Average live weight was 157 pounds, down seven pounds from November and four pounds below the previous year. Total live weight was 227,000 pounds, up 19 percent from November but nine percent below a year ago.

The number of **sheep** slaughtered during December was 300 head, unchanged from November and the same as the previous year. Live weight averaged 52 pounds, down six pounds from the previous month and eight pounds below the previous year.

## United States Livestock Slaughter

**Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 4.4 billion pounds in December, up five percent from the 4.2 billion pounds produced in December 2009.

**December 2010** contained 23 weekdays (including two holidays) and four Saturdays. **December 2009** contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays.

**Beef production**, at 2.3 billion pounds, was six percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.9 million head, up six percent from December 2009. The average live weight was up nine pounds from the previous year, at 1,305 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 11.7 million pounds, 11 percent below December a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 77,700 head, down 16 percent from December 2009. The average live weight was up 21 pounds from last year, at 261 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 2.1 billion pounds, up four percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.9 million head, up one percent from December 2009. The average live weight was up seven pounds from the previous year, at 277 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 15.0 million pounds, was down six percent from December 2009. Sheep slaughter totaled 217,300 head, eight percent below last year. The average live weight was 138 pounds, up two pounds from December a year ago.

**January to December 2010 commercial red meat production** was 49.1 billion pounds, down slightly from 2009. Accumulated beef production was up one percent from last year; veal was down three percent; pork was down two percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down four percent.

### Commercial Livestock Slaughter and Red Meat Production

Item	Louisiana					United States			
	November	December		January – December		December		January – December	
	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
-----Number, thousand head-----									
Cattle	0.5	0.4	0.5	7.1	5.5	2,754.2	2,918.0	33,338.2	34,265.2
Calves	0.5	0.4	0.4	4.4	5.4	92.3	77.7	944.2	878.7
Hogs	1.2	1.5	1.4	13.1	11.7	9,833.7	9,925.4	113,618.1	110,256.6
Sheep & Lambs	0.3	0.3	0.3	4.2	3.9	235.5	217.3	2,515.9	2,455.7
-----Total live weight, thousand pounds-----									
Cattle	333	264	334	5,092	4,150	3,558,149	3,792,092	42,967,091	43,682,302
Calves	248	210	197	2,257	2,876	21,915	19,707	233,405	226,766
Hogs	190	249	227	2,516	2,156	2,654,235	2,748,884	30,721,788	30,002,277
Sheep & Lambs	17	18	14	266	258	31,872	29,973	341,382	327,792
-----Average live weight, pounds-----									
Cattle	727	714	722	717	755	1,296	1,305	1,293	1,279
Calves	541	502	526	513	533	240	261	250	262
Hogs	164	161	157	192	184	270	277	271	272
Sheep & Lambs	58	60	52	63	66	136	138	136	134
-----Million pounds-----									
Red Meat	0.5	0.5	0.5	6.3	5.8	4,148.6	4,355.2	49,273.6	49,050.1

## Louisiana Cattle Inventory

**All cattle and calves** on Louisiana farms as of January 1, 2011, were estimated at 790,000 head, down six percent from a year ago. **All cows that have calved** were estimated at 480,000 head, down eight percent from a year ago. Louisiana's 2010 **calf crop** was estimated at 360,000 head, down ten percent from the 2009 calf crop.

- ▶ **Beef cows** were estimated at 461,000 head, down eight percent from January 1, 2010.
- ▶ **Milk cows**, at 19,000 head, were down ten percent from a year ago.

Other cattle inventory estimates and changes from a year ago were:

- ▶ **Beef cow replacement heifers** – 82,000 head, unchanged.
- ▶ **Milk cow replacement heifers** – 5,000 head, down 29 percent.
- ▶ **Other heifers** – 21,000 head, up 31 percent.
- ▶ **Steers 500 pounds and over** – 21,000 head, unchanged.
- ▶ **Bulls 500 pounds and over** – 30,000 head, down six percent.
- ▶ **Calves under 500 pounds** – 151,000 head, down seven percent.

## United States Cattle Inventory

**All cattle and calves** in the United States as of January 1, 2011, totaled 92.6 million head, one percent below the 93.9 million on January 1, 2010. This is lowest January 1 inventory of all cattle and calves since the 91.2 million on hand in 1958. **All cows and heifers that have calved**, at 40.0 million, were down one percent from the 40.5 million on January 1, 2010.

- ▶ **Beef cows**, at 30.9 million, were down two percent from January 1, 2010.
- ▶ **Milk cows**, at 9.1 million, were up one percent from January 1, 2010.

Other class estimates on January 1, 2011, and the change from January 1, 2010, are as follows:

- ▶ **All heifers 500 pounds and over**, 19.5 million, down one percent.
- ▶ **Beef replacement heifers**, 5.2 million, down five percent.
- ▶ **Milk replacement heifers**, 4.6 million, up one percent.
- ▶ **Other heifers**, 9.8 million, up one percent.
- ▶ **Steers weighing 500 pounds and over**, 16.4 million, down one percent.
- ▶ **Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over**, 2.2 million, down two percent.
- ▶ **Calves under 500 pounds**, 14.5 million, down 3 percent.
- ▶ **Cattle and calves on feed** for slaughter in all feedlots, 14.0 million, up three percent.
- ▶ The combined total of **calves under 500 pounds, and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds** outside of feedlots was 26.7 million, down three percent.

The 2010 **calf crop** was estimated at 35.7 million head, down one percent from 2009. This is the smallest calf crop since the 34.9 million born during 1950. Calves born during the first half of 2010 are estimated at 25.9 million, down one percent from 2009.

### CATTLE INVENTORY – JANUARY 1

Item	Louisiana		United States	
	2010	2011	2010	2011
	-----Thousand Head-----		-----Thousand Head-----	
All Cattle and Calves	840	790	93,881	92,582
Beef Cows	499	461	31,371	30,865
Milk Cows	21	19	9,086	9,150
Beef Cow Replacement Heifers	82	82	5,451	5,158
Milk Cow Replacement Heifers	7	5	4,526	4,557
Other Heifers	16	21	9,769	9,818
Steers 500 Pounds and Over	21	21	16,510	16,382
Bulls 500 Pounds and Over	32	30	2,190	2,153
Calves Under 500 Pounds	162	151	14,979	14,500
Cattle on Feed	---	---	13,642	14,023

  

	2009	2010	2009	2010
Calf Crop	400	360	35,939	35,684

## January Farm Prices Received Index Up

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in January, at 169 percent, based on 1990-1992=100, increased 11 points from December. The Crop Index was up 20 points, but the Livestock Index was unchanged. Producers received higher prices for corn, cattle, wheat and soybeans and lower prices for eggs, turkeys, milk and broilers. In addition to prices, the overall index was also affected by the seasonal change based on a three-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased monthly marketings of soybeans, corn, cattle and rice offset decreased marketings of cotton, wheat and apples.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index was up 29 points from January 2010. The Food Commodities Index, at 160, increased seven points from last month and was up 22 points from January 2010.

## Prices Paid Index Up

The January Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates was 193 percent of the 1990-1992 average. The index was up five points from December and 12 points above January 2010. Higher prices in January for taxes, cash rent, other services and feed grains more than offset lower prices for herbicides, insecticides, milk cows and fungicides/other.

## Average Prices Received By Farmers

Item	Louisiana			United States		
	Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary
	January 2010	December 2010	January 2011 <sup>1</sup>	January 2010	December 2010	January 2011 <sup>1</sup>
	----- Dollars -----			----- Dollars -----		
Soybeans, per bushel	9.99	10.30	2/	9.79	11.60	12.60
Sorghum, per cwt	5.76	2/	2/	5.84	8.79	9.89
Rice, per cwt	15.00	12.80	13.70	15.00	12.80	13.70
Upland Cotton, per pound	.603	.718	.728 <sup>3</sup>	.608	.809	.829 <sup>3</sup>
Hay, all, baled, per ton	n/a	n/a	n/a	106.00	112.00	112.00
Beef Cattle, per cwt <sup>4</sup>	56.90	66.50	n/a	82.10	98.10	106.00
Steers & Heifers, per cwt	83.80	96.20	n/a	87.50	104.00	110.00
Cows, per cwt <sup>5</sup>	45.40	52.50	n/a	47.90	55.20	63.00
Calves, per cwt	96.70	107.00	n/a	109.00	128.00	135.00
Broilers, live, per pound	n/a	n/a	n/a	.480	.460	.450
Eggs, All, per dozen	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.030	1.080	.850
Milk, All, per cwt <sup>6</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	16.10	16.70	16.20

<sup>1</sup> Mid-month.

<sup>2</sup> Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

<sup>3</sup> Preliminary prices are based on sales during the first half of the month

<sup>4</sup> "Cows" and "steers and heifers" combined.

<sup>5</sup> Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

<sup>6</sup> Before deductions for hauling and government withholdings. Includes bulk tank, quantity and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

n/a = Not Available.

## Louisiana Milk Production

Louisiana dairies produced 53 million pounds of milk during the October-December 2010 quarter, down nine percent from the same period in 2009. Milk cows averaged 19,000 head during the quarter, down 2,000 head from last year.

## United States Milk Production

Milk production in the U.S. during the October - December quarter totaled 47.5 billion pounds, up three percent from the October - December quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.1 million head, 36,000 head more than the same period last year.

### Quarterly Milk Production: Selected States, October-December 2009-2010

Selected States	October-December Milk Cows <sup>1</sup>		October-December Milk Production <sup>2</sup>	
	2009	2010	2009	2010
	-----Thousands-----		-----Millions-----	
Alabama	11	11	36	35
Arkansas	13	12	37	35
<b>Louisiana</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>53</b>
Mississippi	17	16	55	50
Oklahoma	57	54	239	228
Tennessee	54	51	209	202
23 Major States <sup>3</sup>	8,313	8,374	42,917	44,245
<b>United States</b>	<b>9,090</b>	<b>9,126</b>	<b>46,265</b>	<b>47,543</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes milk sucked by calves.

<sup>3</sup> Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington and Wisconsin.

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